

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing a molded dental piece having a periphery, said method comprising shape cutting a molded piece from a mold blank; working inner and outer contours of the molded piece to form a circumferential web around the molded piece that connects the molded piece to the mold blank; wherein the circumferential web is formed in the outer boundary range and in the area of the largest extent along the whole periphery of the molded piece; splitting the circumferential web by circular milling using a milling tool set in its depth to recover the molded piece.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the perforated circumferential membrane is split by manual pressure.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the perforated circumferential membrane is split with a knife-like tool, such as a scalpel.

Claim 5 (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein, the outer contour and then the inner contour is worked, or, alternatively, the inner contour and then the

outer contour is worked.

7. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein rough milling of the molded piece is carried out first, in particular with a meander-shaped strategy and then a fine milling, in particular with a circular strategy.

8. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein smoothing of the inner contour and/or the outer contour is carried out before the circumferential web is split.

9. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein directly before splitting the circumferential web a cavity in the molded piece is worked by fine milling.

10. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the molded piece is cleaned by circular milling after the molded piece is separated from the mold blank.

11. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the molded piece is caught on a padded retainer after the circumferential web is split in a position which approximately corresponds to the position of the molded piece in the mold blank.

12. (Currently amended) A method for producing a molded dental piece, comprising
shape cutting a molded piece from a mold blank;
working inner and outer contours of the molded piece to form a circumferential membrane around the molded piece

that connects the molded piece to the mold blank, said membrane having a thickness of from 50 μm to 500 μm ;

forming a plurality of through holes in the circumferential membrane to form a perforated circumferential membrane; and

splitting the perforated circumferential membrane to recover the molded piece.

13. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein after recovering the molded piece, remainders staying on the molded piece are removed through manual working, such as scraping and/or milling.

14. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the through holes are formed as a slot.

15. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein three elongated through holes having a length L_D are trained following an elbow or elbow-like section, and wherein a dividing connection is present between two adjacent through holes.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein the relationship between the length L_D of a through hole (133, 134, 136) and the length L_V of a dividing connection (140, 144, 147) is $1 : 20 \leq L_V : L_D \leq 1 : 5$.

17. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the mold blank is rotatably mounted and is worked along three axes by means of a movable milling tool.

18. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein materials such as those made from pre-sintered ceramics material, such as zircon oxide or aluminum oxide are used as a mold blank.

19. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein materials such as those made from sintered ceramics material, such as zircon oxide or aluminum oxide, are used as a mold blank.

20. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the perforated circumferential membrane is formed in the outer boundary range and, in particular, in the area of the largest extent of the molded piece.